

March 16, 2023

Opponent, written testimony only, HB 2053

Respected Chair Thompson and Committee Members,

HB 2053 completely undermines SB 208 and SB 209 because is it all about drop boxes!

I know those are 2 different bills but they have a similar point regarding drop boxes. SB 208 is only about drop boxes while SB 209 is about advance ballots and where 'drop boxes' can be located: only at election offices, county maintained election drop box and satellite election offices with the deadline being Election Day by 7pm.

Here's the message of the day: WE THE PEOPLE DO NOT WANT DROP BOXES. If we must, ok, but only AT THOSE 3 LOCATIONS, PERIOD, if they are ***truly and strictly*** monitored.

Why our current Secretary of State is so keen on having drop boxes on every corner is very concerning. They cannot be monitored AT ALL. Someone could drop the maximum 10 on one day and go back ***every day until Election Day with 10 more***. How is that to be monitored? It can't be. So, the easy answer is NO DROP BOXES, period. The next best answer is to have them in the 3 locations stated above. They are inside and there are witnesses, hopefully a specific person who is watching. It would be even better if you had to sign on a clip board with your name and how many ballots (and for whom) you are dropping, with a show of ID.

Respected Chair and Committee Members, we are all so tired of being suspicious of our election process. Honestly, we feel we are fighting this battle alone sometimes when we keep seeing these ridiculous bills coming out of either Chamber at times. We need to keep it simple: paper ballots we fill out with a black pen being slid in a box after you stand in line and vote on Election Day. All this extra stuff/fluff, which supposedly makes the voting process easier, just creates more layers, more work, more delays, more room for raised eyebrows, more room for electronic transferring and manipulation of votes and etc.

How come, in the old days, all paper ballots were counted by the end of the news on Election Day, but now, with all this technology, it takes weeks/months sometimes to count them. Does that not puzzle all of you? American Idol can get a tally in seconds to announce the winner with their technology...but our governments take for EVER and even then, there is so much room for question and corruption. Part of the reason: unmonitored drop boxes that allow for ballot stuffing of phony fake ballots from no human...totally fabricated ballots.

Weary....that's the word, weary. I can't help but think of a line from the favorite Christmas Carol, O Holy Night..." A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn".

We are weary. We need to rejoice. We need honest elections. We need you to vote NO on this and the other 2 election bills being heard on Tuesday.

Thanks so much. Please vote NO on HB 2053.

Most sincerely, Jill O'Connor, Overland Park Kansas